FAL. You must excuse me, master Robert Shallow.

Cock is only a corruption of the Sacred Name, as appears from many passages in the old interludes, Gammer Gurton's Needle, &c. viz. *Cocks-bones, cocks-wounds*, by *cocks-mother*, and some others. *Cock's-body, cock's passion*, &c. occur in the old morality of Hycke Scorner, and in The Merry Wives of Windsor. Ophelia likewise says:

"• - -By *cock* they are to blame."*

The *pie* is a *table* or *rule in the old Roman offices*, showing in a technical way how to find out the service which is to be read upon each day.

Among some *statutes* or Ordinances, however, made at Kilkenny in the reign of King Henry VIII. we have—"Item that the *Pie* of coals be abridged to the one halfe that theretofore had been served."

A printing letter of a particular size, called the [illegible], was probably denominated from the *pie*, as the *brevier* from the *breviary*, and the *primer* from the *primer*. STEEVENS.

What was called *The Pie* by the clergy before the Reformation, was called by the Greeks [illegible] or *the index*. Though the word [illegible] signifies a *plank* in its original, yet in its metaphorical sense it signifies [illegible] a painted table or picture: and because indexes or tables of books were formed into square figures, resembling pictures or painters' tables hung up in a frame, these likewise were called *[illegible]*, or being marked only with the first letter of the word [illegible]s or *Pies*. All other derivations of the word are manifestly erroneous.

In the second preface Concerning the Service of the Church, prefixed to the Common Prayer, this table is mentioned as follows: "Moreover the number and hardness of the rules called the *Pie*, and the manifold changes," &c. RIDLEY.

This oath has been supposed to refer to the sacred name, and to that service book of the Romish church which in England before the Reformation was denominated *[illegible]*: but it is improbable that a volume with which the common people would scarcely be acquainted, and exclusively intended for the use of the clergy, could have suggested a popular

adjuration,

It will, no doubt, be recollected, that in the days of ancient chivalry it was the practice to make solemn vows or engagements for the performance of some considerable enterprise. This ceremony was usually performed during some grand feast or entertain-* ment, at which a roasted peacock or pheasant, being served up by